

## New Israeli Voices Lecture and Events Series at CSZ

On November 5 at 7 pm, the Israel Havurah will kick off the New Israel Voices Lecture and Events Series at CSZ. Held in conjunction with the Israel Center of the Jewish Community Federation, the monthly programs aim to bring a diversity of perspectives on the country, including feminism, art and culture, and social justice activism.

Our first speaker is Avirama Golan, journalist and member of the editorial board of the liberal daily, *Ha'aretz*. Her columns characteristically deal with the challenges faced by the "other Israel," in the widest sense of the word. Ms. Golan has challenged the chipping away of the social service network that was at the core of the Labor Zionist welfare state. Her reportage often chronicles the struggles of Israelis living below the poverty line.

Her work has also documented contradictory developments within the Orthodox community, including the simultaneous rise of religious feminism and the increasing hostility to the notion of an integrated role for women in the army.

In 1996, Ms. Golan became a member of the editorial board of *Ha'aretz* (and is still the only woman there), and since 1999, has hosted her own TV show, "First Reading." On this weekly show, Ms. Golan interviews emerging writers, presenting new voices in the socio-cultural life of the country.

Additional programs, all at CSZ, in the New Israeli Voices series include:

- December (date to be determined) - Chanukah cooking and related storytelling with Donny Inbar
- Sunday, February 3, evening - Prof. Avraham Friedman, Head of Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies
- Sunday, March 10 - Gil-Ad Harish, attorney, author and a great example of emerging volunteerism and community-based giving in Israel
- Sunday, April 7, evening - Motti Lerner, playwright, dramaturg and director, focusing on political issues

- May - In connection with Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day), we plan to present an Israeli film

### You Can Help Our Friends in Israel

As a CSZ member, you will receive a letter from Rabbi Angel and President Lisa Katz, encouraging you to support causes in Israel that are dear to us and consistent with CSZ's values. Please respond to the mailing by supporting the Agudah (the National Association of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgenders in Israel), the American Reform Zionist Movement (AR-ZA/World Union of Progressive Judaism), and by registering to vote in the upcoming World Zionist Organization elections. If you are not a CSZ member and want information on these organizations, please contact the synagogue office.

## California Prisons, Prisoners and the Death Penalty From a Jewish Perspective

Rabbi Ira Book, Chaplain at Folsom, Mule Creek and California State Prisons

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel

Wednesday, November 14, 7-9 pm

Join CSZ's social action committee as we examine issues related to prisons and the death penalty from Jewish perspectives, both traditional and modern. Learn more about outreach to Jewish prisoners as well as other ways that we as a community can get involved.

Since 1959, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) has formally opposed the death penalty. In 1999, the Reform movement passed a resolution expressing a commitment

## Fundraising Committee Seeks Volunteers

The CSZ Fundraising Committee will be coordinating a variety of fundraising activities and campaigns this year that will require additional CSZ volunteers. If you would like to help out with this important work during the upcoming year, please contact the synagogue office, or contact the Fundraising Committee Chair, Arthur Slepian, at [aslepian@pacbell.net](mailto:aslepian@pacbell.net). We could use the assistance of members both with and without prior fundraising experience. Thanks so much for your help.

## Reform Community Shabbat Brings Reform Jews Together

On Friday, November 30, Reform Jews throughout the San Francisco Bay Area will join together at Congregation Beth Am in Los Altos Hills for the second Reform Community Shabbat. Services start at 8 pm. Dr. David Ellenson, new-

ly elected president of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, (HUC-JIR) will deliver the sermon entitled: "Judaism: Resurgent? HUC-JIR

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As I sit here in the sukkah, just a few days after Yom Kippur, and write this message for the November *Jewish Gaily Forward*, it is hard to predict what will seem

relevant a month from now, given the world scene. There is so much that seems uncertain and fragile. The sukkah itself, frail and impermanent, with only a partial covering for a roof through which the stars have to be visible, is a reminder of the transitory quality of human life. Looking up at the vast expanse of the stars quickly reminds us that we are very small creatures clinging to the surface of a rather insignificant planet.

In the coming weeks, we will celebrate Thanksgiving, a holiday not unlike Sukkot in many ways. Just as on Sukkot, when we dwell in the fragile hut to remind ourselves of the impermanence of all things precious, so too, on Thanksgiving, we gather together with friends and family to celebrate and rejoice with one another, in the here and now. Grateful for the fall harvest and our sense of abundance, we offer up thanksgiving for our many blessings.

Aware of our sense of fulfillment, both Sukkot and Thanksgiving are meant to arouse within us our sense of duty to care for those less fortunate. We are called to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless, to comfort the bereaved and extend our support to those who are ill. Those whose lives feel fragile long after Sukkot is over and Thanksgiving has passed, need our continued help.

Here at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, the opportunities to make a real and lasting difference are plentiful. I hope you will stretch yourself this year and make Bikkur Cholim and Social Action part of your weekly spiritual practice. Both committees enable us to reach out to others so that they, too, might share the joys of the harvest in gratitude, in safety and in peace.

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## Confessions of an Administrator *by Lea Salem*

I have a confession to make: sometimes I face the advent of the High Holidays with some measure of trepidation. Not merely because I have sinned so much all year long and don't know how to make atonement, but also because my already busy work load triples. The period leading up to the services doesn't always bring out the best in any of us. People become annoyed when they contact the synagogue to get seats for Kol Nidre and there are none left. Although I am sure that many of them have a good reason, I find myself wondering why they have waited until the last minute. I worry that I will end up miscalculating the number of tickets that will be used and will distribute too many extras, so that someone with a ticket will not be able to find a seat.

This year, when the boxes were in the process of being packed and stacked in the hallway waiting for the movers to transport them to the Herbst Theater, a congregant confided that she had never considered all the items that needed to be packed and moved. Now, I know that she meant that she just never had thought about all the logistical details but, really, did she think that this was somehow all done by elves? Yet another thought for which I was to repent ten days later.

Here is my other confession: I get a great deal of thanks, appreciation and credit at the holidays, but it is really the hundreds of hours that are put in

by so many people that make the services happen. I just do part of the coordination. Yes, it is a great deal of work for me, but so many people do so much work that my efforts pale in comparison, and the accumulated number of hours is incalculable. This year, in particular, people really stepped up and offered to help in as many ways as they could. The Ritual Committee, chaired by Nicole Bloom, spent months preparing for services. Under the direction of High Holiday Ritual Co-Chairs, Leslie Kane and Andy Fyne, members spent their time writing sermons, assigning parts and honors, preparing outlines, making tapes for the Torah chanters and practicing their own parts, to name just a few of their tasks.

We had 20 pairs of hands setting up the oneg and break fast. The four chairs, Laura Lowe, Richard Meyerson, Alan Foss and Eileen Lynette were incredible. They inventoried supplies, placed orders, organized volunteers and laid out the feasts in which we all shared. The usher chairs, Gail Ludwig and Ida Kuluk, worked tirelessly to recruit, schedule, organize and orient a corps of more than 50 ushers. The Va'ad members and Past Presidents were on hand to greet worshipers, staff nametag tables, monitor balcony doors and help out in whatever manner was needed. The shofar sounders had practiced for the entire month of Elul.

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## From Teshuvah and Tefillah to Hebrew Letters and Crafts

*by Dahlia Gross*

At Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, our Yom Kippur workshops are meant to provide another space for worshippers to explore their personal relationship to teshuvah and Judaism. This year, in response to the tragedy of September 11, several members offered their expertise in helping others with the grieving process (for former New Yorkers) or in understanding what role Judaism, faith and God may play in such a catastrophe. I have an enormous amount of gratitude for each of you who dedicated your afternoon to nourishing other people's Yom Kippur experience. Thank you to Eve Meyer, Sarita Groisser, Phyllis Mintzer, Sandy O'Neill, Nathan Robinson, Marc Lipshutz, Barbara Cymrot, Beth Sousa, Jeanette Nichols, Avraham Giannini, Paul Cohen, Jim Frazin and Adult Education co-chairs Ron Edelman and Prudence Carter.



## A Child's Questions

by Lisa Katz

After the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, I found my feelings of grief assuaged by reaching out a hand of support to my Arab and Muslim friends and neighbors, whom I felt were being unfairly targeted. It was natural for me to put up a sign in my window reading "Our Community is a Hate-Free Zone." It took the questions of a child, however, to make me more comfortable with the patriotic flag waving response of many of those in our community.

Miriam, my five-year-old daughter, was riding in the car with me a few weeks after the attack. "Mama," she said, "why do people have so many flags out?" I was not entirely certain how to answer this question. As a child of the Vietnam war era, I have a very difficult relationship with our country's flag and signs of patriotism in general. But this did not seem the time to explain my ambivalence. I told her that the flags were out for people to show their support for our country. "What does support mean?" she asked. She was not going to let me off the hook easily.

We had talked briefly after the September 11 attack about how some buildings in New York and Washington had fallen down. She did not seem to have the patience for any more detailed explanation. At school they explained that some bad people had flown planes into the buildings, and a lot of people were hurt, but that was very far away from here, and she was safe. I told Miriam that support is wanting to help other people out. She still did not appear to understand. I tried a different tack.

"If a bully hurt Rosie (her younger sister) you would want to go and give her a hug to make her feel better, right?" I said. "Yes," she said. "Well, a country is like a great big family where you don't know everyone. We can't go hug the people who got hurt, but some people put out flags to show that they care about those people." That seemed to make sense to her.

## Reform Community Shabbat

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and Values in a New Century." This will be the first opportunity in the Bay Area for Dr. Ellenson to share his vision for the Reform movement and the HUC-JIR since his election. Please join us for a Shabbat of inspiration, teaching and joy.

The Reform Community Shabbat provides an opportunity for the entire Reform Jewish community to gather to celebrate Shabbat, sing, pray, and rejoice in the strength of Reform Judaism. A relatively new tradition in the Bay Area, the Reform Community Shabbat brings together rabbis, cantors, soloists and congregants from many congregations.

The Reform Community Shabbat is sponsored by the Reform congregations of the San Francisco Bay Area, the American Conference of Cantors, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, HUC-JIR and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations - Pacific Central West Council.

Congregation Beth Am is located at 26790 Arastradero Road, Los Altos Hills. For more information contact Rabbi Michael Berk, Regional Director, Pacific Central West Council of the UAHC, 888/756-8242, ext. 17, mberk@uahc.org.

## UAHC 66th Biennial Convention

### DARING TO DREAM IN BOSTON: TRANSFORMING REFORM JUDAISM

On December 5-9, join with 5,000 other North American Reform Jews at the UAHC Biennial and learn what the future holds for our synagogue communities. This once-every-two-years time is when we totally immerse ourselves in our Judaism. Away from

It also caused me to realize that my discomfort with the flag is really misplaced at this time. Our country is a very different place from what it was 30 years ago. We need to guard against jingoistic patriotism, in which pride in our own country can mean a desire to harm our Arab and Muslim neighbors. But showing the flag can also be a way to give a big hug to people we don't even know who are hurting.

## New Members' Dinner

*"To smile at your neighbors is more important than to offer them a drink."*

*The Talmud*

Luckily, at the Congregation Sha'ar Zahav Welcome Dinner, you can fulfill both mitzvot.

**Friday, November 16, 6:15 pm**

**Bitterroot - 3122 16th St.**

(between Guerrero and Valencia)

Please join the Keshet (Connection) Committee for the monthly Welcome Pre-Shabbat Dinner on the third Friday of every month. This informal "pay-what-you-can" gathering is for prospective members, new members and seasoned members to get to know each other in a more informal and relaxed setting.

As is our minhag (custom), we will gather at CSZ at 6:15 pm and then head to the restaurant at 6:30 pm.

Please RSVP either to Marc Wernick (415/928-7883 mhwer-nick@aol.com) or the office (415/861-6932, office@shaar-zahav.org). We look forward to having you join us.

the everyday, we take time to explore synagogue life and gather new ideas; study with scholars and celebrate with friends; learn from the pros and each other; and sing and schmooze. For information and registration go to [www.uahc.org](http://www.uahc.org).

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is also our extended family. We may no longer know everyone at the synagogue as we continue to grow. But it is still a place for us to come together in times of grief (and celebration) for support and prayer and a sense that we are part of a community that cares about us.

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## Todah Rabah Childcare Staff and Volunteers

Thanks to all the wonderful staff and committed volunteers, High Holiday childcare was a huge success this year. Together we provided a nurturing, playful and educational setting where the children felt safe and parents could participate in services completely. May you all have a peaceful year filled with the sweetness of honey. Thank you to staff members Esther Fishman, Andrea Guerra, Tami Hendriksz, Terri Lynn Delk, Jodie Klein, Megan Saperstein, Claudia DeCost and Rei, and to parents and friends Nancy Showen, Patty Caplan, Mark Klaiman, Mike Zimmerman, Carolyn Pines, Ann Daniels, Randy Ellen Blaustein, Tamira Elul, Stephanie Godt, Ellen Novogrodsky, Ruthy Talansky and Howard Herman.

## President's Column

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After the tashlich service on Rosh Hashanah, several of us stayed on the beach to talk and let the children play. While we were there another group came down to the beach for a tashlich service. As we watched, it became obvious that this was a Hillel group and that all of the participants were about the same age. At one time, CSZ was also made up of people who were closer in age and at similar stages in life. But we have become more diverse. We have members who are babies and members who are grandparents. We have members who are single adults, members who are married to people of the opposite gender and members who consider themselves gender queer. While the majority of our members continue to be drawn from the gay and lesbian community, it is no longer a monolithic adult community. We represent the broad diversity of the progressive Jewish community. We may not always agree with each other, but as a community and a congregation, we give each other a symbolic hug by listening to those diverse viewpoints and giving respect to the people we disagree with. That is what makes our congregation strong and vibrant.



## Pinat Yeladim Umishpachah Children and Family Corner



### Celebrate Shabbat at the Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner and Service

**Friday, November 2, 6 pm**

Join us for our monthly family celebration of Shabbat with Rabbi Angel, Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz, and guest star Lom Friedman. We will eat and sing and pray and welcome Shabbat. Reservations are necessary. For more information and to RSVP, contact Sue Bojdak at 415/861-6932 x302.

### Kadimah-led Services with Rabbi Angel

**Saturday, November 3, 10 am**

Celebrate Shabbat with Kadimah! The children will take the bimah to lead us in prayer, along with Rabbi Angel. Don't miss this special prayer opportunity!

### Tot Shabbat

**Saturday, December 1, 10:30 am**

Tot Shabbat is for children aged 2-5, their friends and families. We come together one Shabbat every month at 10:30 am for an age-appropriate service filled with art, storytelling, singing, prayer and movement!

### Baby Havurah and Bagel Brunch

**Saturday, December 1, 12:30 pm**

Baby Havurah is moving to 12:30 pm on Shabbat afternoons once a month. Celebrate Shabbat with your baby. Share parenting tips over bagels. Songs, toys, bubbles, finger plays, and a mini-service puppet show are not to be missed by the 24-month and under set.

The Children's Education Board (CEB) meets once a month to review policy and program issues related to Kadimah, pre-Kadimah and post-Kadimah programs. The meetings are open to everyone and we encourage interested CSZ members to become involved with the Board. If you have an issue regarding policy that you would like the Board to review, please contact the chair of the CEB, Ruthy Talansky, at 510/482-6102.

## Todah Rabah

Many thanks to the numerous parents who sat at Kadimah and childcare doors during High Holiday services, keeping our children safe and accounted for. And huge love and appreciation to the Prochovnick/Frantz family, the Schaffers, the Mintzers and the Zingman-Daniels for hosting Kadimah Sukkah building. The generous donation of your time and your homes has enriched this holiday season for all of us.

## Family Education Series at CSZ

Concurrent learning for children, their families and others who are interested in these topics.

## LGBT ADOPTION

**November 11, 10:30 am - noon**

For couples or singles who have recently adopted or are considering adoption, and their family members. Meet parents and prospective parents for a fun and informative morning of discussion and questions.

To RSVP: Sue Bojdak, Family and Children's Education Director, 415/861-6932 ext. 302.

## Save the Date:

## NON-GENDER-BIASED PARENTING -

**Sunday, January 6**

**For more information about any of these programs, or to RSVP, contact:**

**Sue Bojdak at 415/861-6932 x 302,  
or [educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org),**



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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward* as part of their membership. Nonmembers can receive a *Forward* subscription for \$36/year.

Note that articles reflect the opinions of their author and not necessarily those of the congregation or its committees.

#### Members of the Newsletter Committee

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**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California, 94103, marked: Attention Forward advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

November 2001, Volume 25, Issue 3.



## Confessions of an Administrator *continued from page 2*

The Logistics Chairs, Manny Fishman and Ed Blaik, spent time with me prior to the holidays reviewing the organization and making plans for interacting with the Herbst and were on hand from morning until night, solving unanticipated problems and coordinating behind the scenes. Rob Tat spent the afternoons prior to services working with the Herbst staff to transform the stage into our bimah, figuring out with them just exactly the right lighting and placement of the Ark. The Kadimah staff, under the direction of Sue Bojdak and the Children's Education Board, and the childcare staff, under the direction of Dahlia Gross, ensured that all our children had a rich holiday experience.

The CSZ maintenance staff, Max McBride, Megan Saperstein and Nol Simonse, worked tirelessly packing and unpacking everything, supervising the movers, moving boxes themselves, setting things up and generally troubleshooting wherever needed. The Public Relations Chairs, Sharyn Saslafsky and Marc Wernick, designed and placed the High Holiday ads, created the signage and communicated with the press. The office staff, Melanie Kushnir, Megan Saperstein and Sean Holcombe, created flyers, answered phones, coordinated ticket distribution as well as a hundred other tasks.

The Officers and the Security Subcommittee had their work cut out for them this year as well, making decisions on how best to keep us all as safe as possible during these particular holidays. Their task was made easier by the dedication of the San Francisco Police Department and the Herbst Theater staff.

Finally, Rabbi Camille Shira Angel's vision and presence infused every aspect of the High Holidays. In addition to preparing her own sermons and services, she reviewed those of the others on the bimah, and she worked with our youth and children. Her unflagging dedication to our community was an inspiration to all of us as we made our way through the last days of 5761.

We really did have an army of people doing their utmost every step of the way to ensure that our worship experience was the very best that it could be. I am deeply indebted to all the hands and hearts and minds that allow us to come together in prayer each year at the holidays - in truth each Shabbat of every year - and particularly this Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur when, in the face of tragedy and shock, we all needed it so very much.

I thank you all from the bottom of my heart and wish you l'shanah tovah.

## Dreaming of Property

Buying your first home? • Buying commercial or investment property?  
Buying a second vacation home? • Refinancing residential or commercial property?

**Irene Ogus**



**Step 1**

Arrange Financing  
Pacific Guarantee Mortgage  
415.865.0777 or 415.252.4216

**Deborah Udin**



**Step 2**

Find the right property for you.  
Zephyr Real Estate  
415.552.9500 ext. 122



**Step 3**

Pick up your keys!

Percentage of all commissions to CSZ



# November 2001-Cheshvan/Kislev 5762

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
DECEMBER DEADLINE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, AT 5 PM							
ARTICLES				ADVERTISING			
Please submit your articles as a Word attachment file via email to: <a href="mailto:kschiller@igc.org">kschiller@igc.org</a> . <i>No late submissions will be accepted.</i>				To place a display ad, contact Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209) or <a href="mailto:froslyn@earthlink.net">froslyn@earthlink.net</a> . To place a classified ad, call the office.			
4	18 Cheshvan	5	19 Cheshvan	6	20 Cheshvan	7	
• 4 pm -	Healing Service Memorial Service for Yitzhak Rabin	• 7 pm -	Creating Queer Jewish Theater  • 7 pm - New Israeli Voices Lecture	• 4 pm -	East Bay Kadimah  • 7-8:30 pm - Cultivating an Authentic Jewish Spiritual Practice	• 4 pm -	Kadimah  • 7 pm - JGF Editing
11	25 Cheshvan	12	26 Cheshvan	13	27 Cheshvan	14	
• 10:30 am -	LGBT Adoption Discussion  • 7 pm -	• 7 pm -	Creating Queer Jewish Theater	• 4 pm -	East Bay Kadimah  • 5:30 pm - Israel Discussion  • 7-8:30 pm - Cultivating an Authentic Jewish Spiritual Practice	• 4 pm -	Kadimah  • 6 pm - Building & Committee  • 7 pm - Death Pen Jewish Pers
18	3 Kislev	19	4 Kislev	20	5 Kislev	21	
				• 7-8:30 pm - Cultivating an Authentic Jewish Spiritual Practice  NO East Bay Kadimah		NO Kadimah	
25	10 Kislev	26	11 Kislev	27	12 Kislev	28	
		• 7 pm -	I/T Committee	• 4 pm -	East Bay Kadimah	• 4 pm -	Kadimah

## Oneg & Flower Sponsorship

These generous people sponsored the Oneg Shabbat and/or flowers in recent weeks:

- 10/5 - Oneg by **Betty Wexler** in celebration of Melanie Kushnir and Alex Davido's aufruf and wedding.  
- Flowers by **Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs** in celebration of Melanie Kushnir and Alex Davido's aufruf and wedding.
- 10/12 - Oneg and Flowers by the **family of Jennifer Woods and David Gorbett** in celebration of their aufruf and wedding.
- 10/13 - Oneg by **Dan Bellm and Yoel Kahn** in honor of their 20th anniversary.
- 10/26 - Oneg by **Michael Bettinger and Robert Goldstein** in honor of the 14th anniversary of their kiddushin.  
- Flowers by **Diana Buchbinder and Jeanne Redsecker** in celebration of their aufruf and wedding.



DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
	<b>1</b> 15 Cheshvan	<b>2</b> 16 Cheshvan	<b>3</b> Shabbat Vayenu 17 Cheshvan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 pm - Bereavement Support Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4:50 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>• 6 pm - Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner</li> <li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Lyssa Friedman and Batya Kalis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li> <li>• 9:30 am - Kadimah</li> <li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Kadimah</li> </ul>
21 Cheshvan	<b>8</b> 22 Cheshvan	<b>9</b> 23 Cheshvan	<b>10</b> Shabbat Chaye Sarah 24 Cheshvan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 pm - Bereavement Support Group</li> <li>• 6:30 pm - Va'ad Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4:43 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Sarita Groisser Sermon by Jake Wirtschafter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li> <li>• 9:30 am - Kadimah</li> <li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Ron Edelman</li> <li>• 12-4 pm - Shabbaton with Rabbi Angel</li> </ul>
28 Cheshvan	<b>15</b> 29 Cheshvan	<b>16</b> Rosh Chodesh 1 Kislev	<b>17</b> Shabbat Toldot 2 Kislev
unds from a ctive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 pm - Bereavement Support Group</li> <li>• 7 pm - Bikkur Cholim Training Session</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4:37 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>• 6:15 pm - Membership Welcome Dinner</li> <li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Howard Steiermann and Laura Lowe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li> <li>• 9:30 am - Kadimah</li> <li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Batya Kalis</li> </ul>
6 Kislev	<b>22</b> Thanksgiving 7 Kislev	<b>23</b> 8 Kislev	<b>24</b> Shabbat Vayetze 9 Kislev
	OFFICE CLOSED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4:33 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li> <li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services NO KADIMAH NO TOT OR BABY SHABBAT</li> </ul>
13 Kislev	<b>29</b> 14 Kislev	<b>30</b> 15 Kislev	<b>1</b> Shabbat Va'Yishlach 16 Kislev
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 pm - Bereavement Support Group</li> <li>• 6:30 pm - Ritual Committee Meeting</li> <li>• 6:30 pm - Israel Havurah</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4:31 pm - Candle Lighting</li> <li>• 8 pm - Reform Movement Shabbat Services at Congregation Beth Am</li> <li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Nicole Bloom and Tiela Chalmers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li> <li>• 9:30 am - Kadimah</li> <li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services</li> <li>• 10:30 am - Tot Shabbat</li> <li>• 12:30 pm - Baby Havurah</li> </ul> <p>World AIDS Day</p>

## East Bay Services

**Friday, November 16, 8:15 pm**

Vegetarian potluck,  
candle lighting and zemirot

Amanda Littauer and Laura Steele  
555 Oakland Ave. #2D, Oakland

510/594-1905

## Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives. When there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible. We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

*Rabbi Camille Shira Angel*



## Rabbi's Column

continued from page 2

There is a line in our evening prayers, "Ufros Aleinu Sukkat Shlomekha" - "Spread over all of us Your sukkah of shalom." Please God, in the coming months, we will find ways to regain our sense of security without compromising or worse, destroying, our sense of integrity. We pray that real and complete peace be the lot of all people; the peace of every human heart. Let us join together as a community and work towards fulfilling the prayers of our hearts. In this way, we will truly create a sukkat shalom.

L'hitraot,  
Camille Shira

*Seek peace with your friend and pursue it with your enemy. Seek it in your place and pursue it in other places. Seek it with your body and pursue it with your money. Seek it for yourself and pursue it for others. Seek it today and pursue it tomorrow. And do not despair, saying, "I will never achieve peace," but pursue it until you do.*

Yehiel b. Yekutiel,  
Sefer Maalot HaMiddot

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## Synagogue Information

### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street  
415/861-6932 (voice); 415/861-6081 (fax)  
Programming office, 415/575-4961  
Education office, 415/575-4962  
office@shaarzahav.org (email)  
http://www.shaarzahav.org (web)

### CSZ Staff:

Rabbi, Camille Shira Angel (x 301)  
- rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org  
Administrator, Lea Salem (x 308)  
- lsalem@shaarzahav.org  
Program Director, Dahlia Gross (x 305)  
- cszdahlia@yahoo.com  
Director of Children's and Family Education  
Sue Bojdak (x 302)  
- educator@shaarzahav.org  
Kadimah Head Teacher,  
- Phyllis Mintzer  
Administrative Assistant,  
Sean Holcombe (x 304)  
- sholcombe@shaarzahav.org  
Family Education Specialist,  
Jeni Markowitz  
- familyeducator@shaarzahav.org

### Officers:

President, Lisa Katz  
(415/821-7746),  
- llkatz1@juno.org or  
- president@shaarzahav.org  
Vice President, Arthur Slepian  
Vice President, Jeffrey Sherman  
Treasurer, James Carlson  
Recorder, Ray Bernstein

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

David Gellman (ex officio)  
Ben Bank  
Howard Herman  
Nancy Kates  
Rose Katz  
Laura Lowe  
Ron Miguel  
Drew Parker-Rose  
Howard Steiermann  
Ami Zusman

Members wishing to contact any  
Va'ad member or committee chair  
are invited to obtain her or his  
number from the synagogue office.

### Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Ron Edelman  
and Prudence Carter  
Archives, open  
Baby Havurah, open  
Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander  
Bikkur Cholim, Nicole Bloom  
Book Group, Mark Mackler  
Building and Grounds, Beth Sousa  
and Daphne Stuart  
Bylaws, Richard Inlander  
Children's Education Board, Ruthy Talansky  
Cemetery, Richard Inlander  
Dor Rishon Brotherhood, open  
Dues, James Carlson, Tiela Chalmers,  
Brian Jersky, Drew Parker-Rose,  
Mike Zimmerman  
East Bay Havurah, Ida Kuluk  
and Larry Wexler  
Endowment Fund, Diana Buchbinder  
Finance, James Carlson  
Fine Arts, Barbara Cymrot  
Fundraising, Arthur Slepian  
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin  
Israel Havurah, Ron Lezell  
and Michal Goralsky  
La'atid, Geoff Benjamin  
Leadership Development, Paul Cohen  
Library, Bernard Schertzer  
Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold  
Membership, Marianne Balin  
Membership Outreach, Tony Harris  
Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign,  
Ellie Cohen  
Newsletter, Karen Schiller  
- kschiller@igc.org  
Past Presidents Council, David Stein  
Personnel, Lyssa Friedman  
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslaffsky  
and Marc Wernick  
Rabbi Liaison, Allan Gold  
Ritual, Howard Steiermann  
Social Action, AJ Turpen  
Singles Havurah, Marc Wernick  
-mhwnick@aol.com  
Toddler/Pre-school Havurah, Deena Lahn  
UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin  
UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir  
WCGLBJO Liaison, David Gellman  
Web and I.T., Drew Parker-Rose  
Women's Havurah, open

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.**



## November

- 1 Joss Eldredge  
Steve Polsky
- 3 Adrienne Hornby
- 4 Matrisha Person
- 5 Steve Marshall  
Hazel Olson-Dorf  
Mara Shuster-Lefkowitz  
Rabbi Eric Weiss
- 6 Gary Gartner
- 7 Rachel Kliegman
- 8 Misha Cohen  
Will Garcia  
Tova Green
- 9 Shmulik Fishman  
Brad Post  
Martha Rosett
- 10 Elijah Lezell Jatovsky  
Sean Martin-Hamburger
- 11 Bruce Kapsack  
Josh Katz  
Patricia Lin
- 12 Richard Weiner
- 13 Zachery Barnes Miller
- 14 Ken Repp
- 15 Manny Fishman  
Allton Vogel-Denebeim
- 16 Ruth Rainero
- 19 Susan Kirshbaum
- 20 Alan Gordon  
Jessica Israel
- 21 Dorothy Goldstein-Stahl  
Mark Greenberg
- 23 Benjamin Gustavson-Scharf
- 24 Mark Bowers  
Ellie Cohen
- 25 Julia Becker
- 26 Nancy Kates
- 28 Bea Lieberman  
Judy Schwartz
- 29 Hal Podgur  
David Rosenzweig  
Mark Vogel

Because of the High Holidays, Marc Wernick is taking a well-deserved break. His column "Why is This New Member Different From All Others?" will appear next month.

## California Prisons

*continued from page 1*

to continuing its efforts opposing the death penalty. Still more recently, the Reform movement has increased the public role of its opposition, through lobbying letter writing, community-wide education and grassroots organizing.

Although Biblical law mandates the use of the death penalty for some offenses, there are a majority of passages that state over and over the belief "that there is no crime for which the taking of human life by society is justified" (CCAR). One rabbi explained, "to put to death one person in seven years is tyrannical. Rabbi Eleazar ben Azariah said 'one person in seventy years' and Rabbi Akiva said 'if we had been in the Sanhedrin (supreme court), no one would have ever been put to death'."

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## From the LGBT Outreach Project of Jewish Family and Children's Services

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*Open to couples of all faiths*

*Starts January, 2002  
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### Parents Place Classes

**Home or the Holidays!**  
Strategies for spending more comfortable time with your extended family  
*October 25: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.*

### Talking to Your Kids About Sexual Orientation

Discussion group for LGBT parents and their partners  
*December 18: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
1710 Scott Street, San Francisco*

### Coming Out Support Group

A safe environment to ask questions, speak openly about feelings and consider the ongoing process of coming out to our loved ones as lesbian gay or bisexual.

*For adults 18 years and over*

*Starts March, 2002  
Weekday evenings TBD  
2150 Post Street, San Francisco*



For registration & information contact  
Margaret Rothman  
415/449-1228 | margaretr@jfcs.org



# Contributions

## High Holiday Contributions (as of October 1)

**James Carlson**  
-in honor of Tony Harris, Ron Miguel and Deborah Udin.

**Rachel and Lele Field**  
-in celebration of this chance for peace in the New Year.

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein.**

**Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm.**

**Janice Phillips**  
-in memory of Martin M. Phillips.

**Jeff Piade**  
-in honor of Leslie Kane and Andy Fyne.

**Steve and Florence Nacamulli**  
-in memory of all those who perished in the attacks on September 11.

**Schelly S. Gartner**  
-in memory of Dann Gartner, Iser Schwartz and Rebecca Schwartz.

**Eve Meyer and Jim Edlin**  
-in memory of Anita B. Edlin.

**Marshall Feldman.**

**Douglas Lonstein.**

**Stephen Rosenthal**  
-in honor of the human spirit.

**Mark Troy**  
-in memory of Ephraim Troy and all the lives that were lost on September 11.

**Rose Katz**  
-in memory of those who died in New York.

**Gerald B. Rosenstein.**

**Elaine Burstein.**

**Darcy Cohn**  
-in memory of Rosie and Alfred Cohn.

**Jo-Carol Davidson**  
-in memory of Doris Kleckner.

**Marius Greenspan**  
-in memory of Earl Greenspan.

**Joan Rummelsburg.**

**Carole Migden.**

**Jonathan Funk.**

**Michael Zimmerman.**

**Marsha G. Lieberman.**

**Roy Bateman.**

**Allan Berenstein.**

**Tivela Seeche.**

**Richard Sinkoff.**

**Aileen Alfaudary and Stephen G. Rosenbaum.**

**Janis Portal.**

**Sandra and John Mahlmeister**  
-in honor of Jerry Weinstein.

**Harold and Inez Shor Cohen.**

**Rabbi Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert**  
-in honor of our fantastic office staff and volunteers.

**Elliot Klein**  
-in honor of Steve Weitz.

**Spencer Seidman.**

**Norman Abramson.**

**Randi Barken.**

**Larry Braverman.**

**Michelle Carter.**

**Sian Clark.**

**Rosalinda del Moral.**

**Zachary and Charnya Fisher.**

**Estelle Freedman.**

**Robin Goldfaden.**

**Susanna Klebaner.**

**Tamar Pachter.**

**Barry Schmell.**

**Nancy Sutley.**

**Joshua Robison and Michael Tilson Thomas.**

**Sheryl Kaskowitz and Benjamin Shaykin.**

**Leah Schneider.**

**Sally Weinberg.**

**Peter Barnes and Leyna Bernstein.**

**Ray Bernstein.**

**Sara Haber and Beth Sousa.**

**Steve Weitz.**

**Avner Lapovsky.**

**Lillian Schaechner.**

**Lonnie Weiss.**

**Lonny Darwin.**

**Eileen Dunn**  
-in memory of Abraham and Evelyn Dunn.

**Israel Katz.**

**Ann Bauman.**

**Arthur Slepian**  
-in memory of George and Sarah Slepian.

## General Fund

**Rachel and Lele Field**  
-in memory of Max Gaines.

**Lisa Katz.**

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein**  
-in appreciation of Arthur Slepian.  
-in memory of Frank Hyman.  
-in memory of Bobbi Cahn.  
-in memory of Fannie and Albert Stein.  
-in memory of Viola Ingersoll.

**Adrienne and Norman Schlossberg**  
-in honor of the wedding of Andy Schwartz and John Mark Eggerton.

**Dawn Marie Waddle**  
-in honor of the wedding of Ali Cannon and Jessica Israel.

**Donald Abrams.**

**Eli Weinstein**  
-in honor of Geoff Benjamin, Dahlia Gross and Tony Harris for all their work on the CSZ Open House.

**Gerda Bernstein.**

**Anna and Josh Katz**  
-in honor of the naming of Sophia Rose Katz.

**Graham Parker and Adam Benso**  
-in appreciation of their visit to CSZ.

**James Carlson**  
-in honor of Greg Eichler and Paul Cohen.  
-in memory of Philip Tuzzolino.

**Joe Hample**  
-in honor of Greg Eichler.

**Jordan and Carol Levitin**  
-in memory of Frank Hyman.

**Susan Tubbesing**  
-in memory of Laura Bezman.

**Judith Holiber, Kim Warsaw and Jake**  
-in honor of Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart's 10th anniversary.

**Mark Gershman**  
-in honor of Marc Wernick's bar mitzvah anniversary.

**Marlene and Martin Stein**  
-in honor of Brian Jersky and Ben Bank.

**Richard and Joan Philips**  
-in honor of Sophia Rose Katz.

**Rod Leslie**  
-in honor of Micah, Rachel and Reed Pruyn Goldstein.  
-in honor of Josh Shuster-Lefkowitz, Stacey Shuster and Joan Lefkowitz.

**Roger and Helen Birdsell**  
-in honor of Jim Frazin's birthday.  
-in honor of Jim Frazin and Louisa Stone's anniversary.

**Ruth Rainero and Pieter deHaan.**

**William and Sakurako Fisher**  
-in memory of Barry Siegel.

**Sharon Levitsky**  
-in memory of Dave Levitsky.

**Sharyn Potter and Michael Schwartz**  
-in honor of the wedding of Andy Schwartz and John Mark Eggerton.

**Susan Jaeger**  
-in honor of the marriage of Geoff Skigen and Beth Silverman.

**Susan Resnick**  
-in honor of the wedding of Ali Cannon and Jessica Israel.

**Ya'akov and Dina Mead**  
-in honor of Larry Kaplun.

### Earnings Devoted to Philanthropy

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If you would like to make a donation, please contact the synagogue office.



## Contributions

### Chesir-Stein Music Fund

**James Carlson**  
-in memory of Isaac Stern.

**Ben Bank**  
-in honor of Marjorie Hilsenrad.

**Children's Education Fund**

**Joan Goldman**  
-in memory of Abraham and Ruth Goldman.

**Stacy Shuster and Joan Lefkowitz**  
-in appreciation of the CSZ staff for all their help with Josh's bar mitzvah.

**Ellen Lewin and Liz Goodman**  
-in memory of Joseph and Fannie Lewin.

### Rabbi Angel's Discretionary Fund

**Alex Davido**  
-with thanks to Rabbi Angel and Paul Cohen for conversion guidance.

**Alex Ingersoll and David Stein**  
-in appreciation of Rabbi Angel during crisis and the hagim.

**Stacey Shuster and Joan Lefkowitz**  
-in gratitude for Josh's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Lauren Silberman**  
-in memory of Jeraldine Silberman.

**Marc Wernick**  
-with thanks to Rabbi Angel, Ora Prochovnick and Andy Fyne.

### Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in memory of Sadie Radetsky.

**Buz Bernstein**  
-in honor of Marc Wernick's bar mitzvah anniversary.

**Trudi and Stephen Hauptman**  
-in honor of Marc Wernick's bar mitzvah anniversary.

**Jonathan Funk**  
-in honor of Marc Wernick's bar mitzvah anniversary.

**Gerald B. Rosenstein**  
-in honor of David Gellman's birthday.

-in honor of the anniversary of David Stein and Alex Ingersoll.

## Members' Yahrzeits

1 Harvey Levine	11 Sidney Rosenthal
2 Richard D. Wright	Bruce Apter
3 Forrest Kincade	12 Maxine Shear
7 Donald Albert	16 Chuck Norton
	22 Tristano Palermino

## Classifieds

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### PSYCHOTHERAPY:

Life transition, grief and loss, HIV/AIDS, substance use, mood disorder, dot-com angst. Jody Reiss, LCSW (#LCS15289), 415-401-9482.

## Sept Va'ad Minutes

Our meeting was abbreviated due to Tuesday's tragedy at the World Trade Center and our second special prayer service. Most of the agenda was postponed until next month.

Jake Wirtschafter told us about an exciting line-up of speakers planned by the Israel Havurah, beginning in November. These include a columnist from *Ha'aretz*, a diplomat and a playwright. (See page 1.)

We discussed security arrangements for High Holidays. After we identified our concerns and expressed preferences as to favored and disfavored procedures, we empowered the Crisis Management Committee to take action based on our input.

Liz Schaffer, who is stepping down from the Personnel Committee, was thanked for her work. Ruthy Talansky has agreed to join the Personnel Committee, and Brian Jersky has agreed to join the Dues Committee. Each was approved unanimously.

## Naches

To **Melanie Kushnir and Alex Davido** on their aufruf and wedding.

To **Jennifer Woods and David Gorbett** on their aufruf and wedding.

To **Diana Buchbinder and Jeanne Redsecker** on their aufruf and wedding.

To **Rose Mallia and Frances Newman** on the birth of their grandson, Connor Joseph Shirar.

To **Dan Bellm and Yoel Kahn** on their 20th anniversary.

To **Rena Frantz** on being awarded a grant from the California Arts Council to serve as Artist-in-Residence at San Francisco Community School.

## Condolences

**Neil Hart** on the death of his uncle, Lou Fishman.

**Sara Felder** on the death of her cousin, Neil Marks.

**Sandy O'Neill** on the death of her friend, Alicia Titus.

**Nancy Levin** on the death of her cousin, John Rosenberg.

**Laura Lowe** on the death of her friend, Don Badgley.

**Nina Wouk** on the death of her mother, Vita Wouk.

**Jacob Rothman** on the death of his grandfather, Jesse Rothman.

**Lucy Bernholz** on the death of her brother-in-law, Chris Maltby.



### *Nov. Anniversaries*

- 1 Nancy Wecker and Lisa Wuennenberg
- 6 James Edlin and Eve Meyer
- 7 Jay Davidson and Tom Hartland  
Judith Holiber and Kimberly Warsaw
- 8 Michael Bettinger and Robert Goldstein
- 13 Virginia Donohue and Mark Klaiman  
Andrew Parker-Rose and Mike Siani-Rose
- 14 Anne Bluethenthal and Donna Rae Palmer
- 17 Lisa Katz and Sharon Heath  
Elizabeth and Michael Schaffer
- 18 Lele and Rachel Field
- 24 Ann Daniels and Jonathan Zingman
- 29 Rachel Maclachlan and Nancy Silverrod

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### **New Members**

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month.

- Julie Frank and Miriam Garfinkel
- James Laque
- Marc Bernstein
- Merle Malakoff and Gina Surber,  
Max, Benjamin and Nina
- Grace Blum
- Joan Becker and Julia Becker
- Henry Hartveldt
- Melissa Packer
- Laura Lloyd
- Gary Winter
- Seth Skolnick

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.